

# BULGARIAN ARMY SUES FOR PEACE

PARIS, Sept. 27.—General Franchet d'Esperey, commanding the Allied armies in Macedonia, has telegraphed to the French government that a high Bulgarian officer has presented himself in behalf of General Torodow, commanding the Bulgarian army, asking the suspension of arms for 24 hours to permit the arrival of two authorized delegates from the Bulgarian government. The minister of finance, Liaptcheff, and General Loukoff, commanding the Bulgarian Second army, are on their way to the French headquarters with the assent of King Ferdinand to arrange the conditions of the armistice and eventually the terms of peace.

## Germans Stagger Under Smashes of Allies on Two Wide Fronts

### SERBS ADVANCE FIFTY-FIVE MILES

### SPEEDY ATTACK OF AMERICANS DRIVES GERMANS OFF FEET

Pennsylvania, Kansas and Missouri Troops Set Example of Intrepidity Which Is Kept Up by Other Units—Aviators Do Great Work.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—The British forces on the Macedonian front have captured the Bulgarian city of Strumnitza.

PARIS, Thursday, Sept. 26 (Macedonia).—The Allied troops in Macedonia have captured more than 10,000 prisoners, says a statement from the French war office tonight. More than 200 guns also have been taken.

LONDON, Sept. 27, 5 p. m., by The Associated Press.—Serbian troops were reported this afternoon to have captured Kochana, about 14 miles from the Bulgarian border opposite Kustendil.

PARIS, Sept. 27, 11:30 a. m.—Reports at this hour from the battle front in the Champagne between the Suippe and Meuse rivers indicate that the attack of the French and American forces is progressing under the most favorable conditions.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—The number of Germans taken prisoner by the French and Americans in their drive in the Champagne and to the east has reached 16,000, according to a Paris dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—In the successful continuance of their northward drive, the Serbians have entered Ishtib and captured other important points, says the Serbian official statement of Thursday.

A great number of additional Bulgarians and Germans have been captured by the Serbians who also have taken enormous quantities of war materials.

The Serbians are now west of the Ishtib-Veles road and have captured the heights of Bogoslovets, south of the road. North of Demirkapu in the direction of the Bulgarian border the Serbs have captured the ridge of Beli Kamen.

Serbian cavalry has entered Kochana, twenty miles northeast of Ishtib and fourteen miles from the Bulgarian border southwest of the important rail head of Kustendil.

The Serbian official statement announces that Serbian cavalry have reached the point fifty-five miles as a crow flies north of the line from which the offensive was started.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, Sept. 27. Reuter's.—Field Marshal Haig's forces at dawn this morning delivered an attack over a wide front. A heavy rain falling during the early hours made the work of approach more difficult but some time before zero all the troops were in position, the rain had ceased and had been replaced by a thick haze which assisted in bewildering the enemy as to the extent and width of our movement.

About nine German divisions (122,000 men) are understood to be opposing Haig's men. So far the battle seems to be going well for the British.

By 9:30 o'clock this morning the British appeared to have crossed the Canal du Nord defenses on a front of more than three miles and to have advanced to a maximum depth of approximately a mile and a quarter.

As early as 8:25 o'clock one or more of the British tanks were reported by an airplane message to have been seen near Flesquieres. Shortly before that the reports were that some of the British were approaching Bourlon spur.

(By The Associated Press.)

Under Allied smashes on two wide fronts between Arras and Verdun the German defensive system based on the fortress of Laon is being shaken severely.

Marshal Foch, while continuing the successful Franco-American thrust from east of Rheims to Verdun, has hurled the British against the German lines north of Cambrai on a front south of the Senne river.

Allied successes in Macedonia have resulted in the offer of an armistice from the Bulgarian premier to the Allied generalissimo in Macedonia. The Allied commander has refused to stop fighting but said he would receive accredited Bulgarian delegates. Meanwhile the Allied forces are pressing on and pushing further apart the divided German-Bulgarian armies.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE VERDUN FRONT, Thursday, Sept. 26, 10 p. m. (By the Associated Press).—The American troops took the Germans somewhat by surprise by the speed of their attack today and, without giving the enemy time to recuperate, they pushed him steadily northward. This evening the Americans, between the Argonne and the Meuse, had reached Malancourt, Montfaucon, Cuisy, Dannevoix and other towns along that line.

The example of intrepidity set by the Pennsylvania, Kansas and Missouri troops was followed by the men in the other American units. The opposition met with at Montfaucon and Dannevoix and other points indicated that the German resistance was becoming stronger and it was apparent the enemy had had time to place in position some of the artillery withdrawn earlier in the day. Late in the afternoon the German aerial activity increased indicating a determination to check what had developed presumably into a sweeping advance.

The work of the tanks which were manned by French and Americans, brought praise from the staff officers. The machines, however, were unable to display their abilities to the fullest extent because of the boggy condition of the terrain. The ground had been softened by rains and as the country naturally is swampy, the terrain was found to be too soft in many places. Many tanks became stalled but they were not damaged as the infantry had driven the enemy northward.

Air Pilots Spectacular Work. A most spectacular feature of the operation was the work of the aerial units. The aerial observers were able to accomplish little until the afternoon, but before the echoes of the opening barrage had died away the pursuit airplanes were over the German lines. The clouds made it appear probable that there would be any great display by the aviator and the fog seemed to hide the enemy, but flying at a height of less than 500 yards the airmen swept down on the German troops in the line and on the roads.

Apparently are making little effort to move northward. The Allies command seemingly believes that the forest will be cleared automatically as the Americans and French progress on either side.

Already the Germans facing the French in the forest have been outflanked on the east. The new British attack launched this morning is north of the operations looking to the encirclement of St. Quentin and threatens the German defenses north and west of Cambrai. South of the Senne river the British are well within the Hindenburg line and on ground untouched previously by heavy fighting. West of Cambrai they are just west of the German line and the new operation probably is planned to outflank the Hindenburg position from Cambrai to St. Quentin. The Franco-American thrust further south is aimed against the communications behind this front.

Serbian troops at the apex of the advancing Allied salient in Macedonia have advanced more than 55 miles from their original positions. The important base of Ishtib has been occupied and the Serbs are fighting for Velos. Northeast of Ishtib Serbian cavalry is pressing rapidly toward the Bulgarian border.

East of the Vardar and north of Doiran the Allies are crossing rapidly the hitherto supposedly impassable mountain heights. The Serbs have got well over the Gradeshnitsa range and the French and Greeks are on the heights of Belachitsa range. British troops are marching on Strumnitza, the Bulgarian base in this region. Progress also is being maintained west of the Vardar and near Monastir while the enemy troops on the wings, especially in Albania, are rapidly getting into a dangerous position.

British Attack on Wide Front. LONDON, Sept. 27.—British troops attacked on a wide front south of the Senne river this morning, according to a report received here from Field Marshal Haig.

Wagon trains were attacked and dead horses and debris blocked the path of those who shortly afterward sought avenues of retreat.

As the skies cleared the observers appeared with their fighting escorts and aided materially in correcting the aim of the artillery which had never ceased its vigorous harassing fire. Gas shells were used plentifully by the Americans in only a few instances but when they were used the work was done effectively.

Heavy Gas Attack. One of the places subjected to a heavy gas attack was Vauquois. That historic place was known to be well fortified. There was reason to believe that the Germans might utilize the forty miles of subterranean passages in the neighborhood. It was flooded with gas clouds and then enveloped by artillery fire. Gas also was used against certain woods around which the Americans afterward marched, instead of going directly through them.

Tanks Escape Traps. Information obtained only the day before the attack enabled the officers of the tank detachments to escape the traps constructed at several places and also the batteries of anti-tank guns.

By mid-afternoon every division headquarters began to look like a prison camp. Groups of German prisoners from a half dozen to 100 appeared at the headquarters at intervals. After being lined up and questioned, they were sent on to the detention camps in the rear. For the most part the captured men were cheerful, some apparently were joyful.

Many of the men were taken in combat but the greater part of them had been forced to take over under the smothering barrage and had been left behind by their retreating companions. With them it was a case of upraised hands. Several officers were captured but in this battle, as in previous engagements, the officers were well in the rear when the retirement began.

Every objective was made according to plan.

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First reports indicate that satisfactory progress is being made.

The British lines were advanced slightly north of the Senne in a local operation during last night and there were successful local attacks in Flanders.

The text of the field marshal's report follows: At 5:20 o'clock this morning our troops attacked over a wide front south of the Senne river. First reports indicate that satisfactory progress is being made.

"During the night successful local operations were carried out in the neighborhood of Arleux, northwest of La Bassée and southwest of Fleurbaix. Our line was advanced in these localities and prisoners captured."

Serbs Enter Ishtib. LONDON, Sept. 27.—The Serbian official expert says:

"Our troops yesterday (Wednesday) captured the very important Beli Kamen, north of Demirkapu. On the same day we entered Ishtib. We have taken Bogoslovets hill. This morning (Thursday) our cavalry pursuing the enemy, entered Kochana."

"Our present line runs west of the Ishtib-Veles road. Fighting is in progress before Velos."

"A great number of additional Bulgarian and German prisoners and enormous quantities of war material have fallen into our hands."

LONDON, Sept. 27.—The Serbians report that "all the roads are crowded with wagons and war material and several trains have been abandoned by the Bulgarians."

"Our cavalry has reached a point 120 kilometers (55 miles) as the crow flies north from the line where our offensive started."

German War Report. BERLIN, Sept. 27.—Via London.—German forces on the front on both sides of the Argonne retired to their lines of defense before the Franco-American attack Thursday, according

## FRENCH CAPTURE 7,000

Carry Formidable Positions in Brilliant Champagne Advance.

PARIS, Sept. 27.—Successful development of the French offensive begun yesterday in the Champagne is reported today by the war office.

Over the entire field of attack by the French between the river Suippe and the Argonne forest, the formidable German positions to a depth of more than three miles were brilliantly carried.

The text of the statement reads: "The attack by French troops in the Champagne developed yesterday with success. From the Suippe to the Argonne, the first German positions, a formidable network of trenches and wire entanglements of a depth of more than five kilometers which the enemy had not ceased to strengthen since 1915 were brilliantly carried by the French troops on a front of over 21 miles."

The French have captured the Butte du Mesnil, the Butte du Souain, the Butte du Tachure and the villages of Tachure, Ripont, Rouvroy, Carnay-en-Dormois and Servon-Melzicourt. More than 7,000 prisoners were taken by the French.

"At certain points the French passed beyond the line."

"The Navarin farm, the Butte du Souain, the Butte du Mont Muret, the Butte du Tachure, the Butte du Mesnil, the villages of Tachure, Ripont, Rouvroy, Carnay-en-Dormois and Servon-Melzicourt with organized points of support and stubbornly defended by the enemy were conquered in hard fighting on the first day of the battle. The number of prisoners thus far counted is more than 7,000, of whom 200 are officers."

"In the course of the night the enemy attempted no reaction. The attack was resumed this morning and despite bad weather it is being continued under satisfactory conditions."

After saving up money for a rainy day many a man blows it in the same night.

to the official statement from German general headquarters today.

It is declared that the "great Franco-American attempt to break through," failed on the first day of the battle owing to the tenacity of the German troops. It is added that fresh battles are imminent.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—Lieutenant-General von Stein, the Prussian war minister, is reported to have resigned, according to advices to the Exchange Telegraph company from Copenhagen.

PARIS, Sept. 27.—Gabriele d'Annunzio, the Italian author-aviator, arrived in Paris this morning in an airplane, flying from Italy across the Alps.

## Christmas Packages Must Be in N. Y. Before November 15

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—Christmas packages for men serving on naval vessels abroad must reach New York not later than November 15, Secretary Daniels announced today.

Packages sent by parcel post must be enclosed in substantial boxes with hinged or screw top covers, to facilitate opening and inspecting.

Boxes sent by express are limited to twenty pounds, should be not more than two cubic feet in volume, be of wood well strapped and have hinged or screw tops.

No perishable food product other than those in cans or glass jars should be packed.

All packages must be marked with the name and address of the sender with a notation "Christmas box" and must be forwarded in care of the supply officer, fleet supply base, 25th street, and Third Avenue, South Brooklyn, New York.

## BULGARIA OFFERS AN ARMISTICE TO THE ALLIED FORCES

Premier's Action Causes Dissatisfaction and Counter Movement Against It Has Been Set on Foot—Revolution Evidently in Progress in Bulgaria.

PARIS, Sept. 27.—The French commander-in-chief in Macedonia officially reports today that the Bulgarians have asked for a meeting to arrange the conditions of an armistice and eventually peace.

The French commander replied, refusing to suspend operations, but saying he would receive duly qualified delegates of the Bulgarian government.

The French commander reports that the Bulgarian request reached him through an intermediary, the general commanding the British army in the east, forming a part of the allied command. General d'Esperey's reply therefore asked the Bulgarian delegates to present themselves to the British lines.

BERLIN REPORTS OFFER.

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 27.—The Bulgarian premier's offer of an armistice was made to the leader of the entente troops operating against Bulgaria, according to a Berlin message received here.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—Germany intends to send a solemn protest to Bulgaria against Premier Malinoff's request for an armistice, according to a Berlin report received in Amsterdam and forwarded by the Exchange Telegraph company.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—The British government today received from an official authorized source an application from Bulgaria for an armistice.

LONDON, Sept. 22.—The Berlin dispatches say that the premier's act "is a single-handed move without the consent of King Ferdinand."

German newspapers demand that Malinoff be dismissed immediately and court-martialed for high treason.

It is believed that the premier's refusal to send sufficient reinforcements to Bulgaria, a situation in Bulgaria is causing extreme excitement in Germany.

LONDON, Sept. 27.—Premier Malinoff of Bulgaria has made an offer of an armistice to the allies, according to a Berlin message transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph correspondent at Copenhagen. The message states that the premier's offer was made without the support of other members of the cabinet, or of King Ferdinand.

The Berlin message says that Malinoff's offer has created dissatisfaction in Bulgaria and that strong military measures have been taken to support the Bulgarian front.

According to statements from Sofia by way of Jassy, it is added, a counter movement against the action of the premier has already been set on foot. (This would seem to indicate that a revolution is in progress in Bulgaria.)

LONDON, Sept. 27.—The news of the Bulgarian developments, including the offer of an armistice, the Copenhagen correspondent states, was from German official sources.

The Berlin message to Copenhagen, in its bare outlines, would seem to indicate that the premier had taken matters into his own hands and attempted to initiate peace for Bulgaria, independent of the dynasty.

A move so made might ordinarily be considered as a revolutionary act and possibly points to the execution of a coup d'etat in Sofia.

The indications in the news from Bulgaria recently have been that the country was in a somewhat disorganized state with widespread discontent manifest over the prolongation of the war. There can be no doubt that the successful offensive now in progress in Macedonia has accentuated this tendency.

Premier Friendly to Entente.

It is known that M. Malinoff, who took the premiership in June last, was friendly to the Entente in the earlier stages of the war before Bulgaria's entrance, and there have not been wanting predictions that he might seek to use his influence toward extricating Bulgaria from the unenviable position which she would occupy in the event of a German defeat, which doubtless appears to him impending.

King Ferdinand himself has not been above the suspicion of entertaining a like desire, although nominally he has been loyal to his Teutonic allies in act and utterance.

News From German Source.

It will be noted that the news of the Bulgarian act comes from German sources and, while its accuracy as to the main fact of the offering of the armistice cannot be doubted, it may be questioned if it reflected accurately the state of affairs in Bulgaria, which accompanied and followed the offering.

The fact that counter-measures have been found necessary indicate that the premier is supported by internal forces, the participation of which makes it seem that a revolutionary movement is in progress. At any rate the disorganized state of affairs at Sofia points either to the success of the armistice move or to the weakening of the Bulgarian morale to such an extent as to make it doubtful if the Bulgarians will be able to put up a really effective defense against the threatened invasion of their soil by the Entente armies now sweeping the Bulgarian troops back in Serbia.

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Bulgars Fleeing in Disorder.

Bulgarian forces in Macedonia seem to be fleeing in disorder from the hills east of the Vardar river. British units invading Bulgaria have reached Kosturino, south of Strumnitza. This advance probably will cause a retirement of the Bulgarian armies along the line which passes through the lowlands between Lake Doiran and the sea and bring Bulgaria face to face with an invasion over a wide front.

Along the Vardar, the Serbians and French have swept over Babuna pass and taken Veles, while to the east they are in the outskirts of Ishtib. In this region they threaten an invasion of Bulgaria from the west. They are within nine miles of Ishtib. It is probable, however, that an effort will be made to take the city of Uskub, 28 miles northwest of Veles. Uskub is said to be the chief supply center for the enemy armies in old Serbia.

On the western side of the battle area the shattered Bulgarian forces are threatened with envelopment, it is reported.

It is reported that the Turkish army in Palestine virtually has been destroyed. More than 42,000 prisoners have been taken by the British while the Arabs have swung around to the north and cut off the fleeing Turks from Damascus.

## GREAT FEAT OF YANKS

Boys Attain All and More Than Attempted in Fight.

PARIS, Sept. 27.—American troops in their attack northwest of Verdun appear to have attained all and more than all they attempted.

The Americans were confronted by the German Fifth army. This force has been diluted which explains the relatively small number of prisoners taken.

The American advance over most difficult ground amidst woods is looked upon here as a fine feat of arms.

The Argonne forest itself is "dead ground" between the two attacking forces but the capture by the Americans of Montblainville (on the eastern outskirts of the forest) bottled up the Germans holding the positions in front of Four de Paris. Germans there now have the French in front of them and the Americans at their backs.

The Germans, it is believed here, have only one division in the Argonne. This force now has no other means of retreat but over the rough roads leading northward through the woods.

"By taking Varennes and Montfaucon with a series of positions that General von Gallwitz considered so impregnable that he could not have taken proper precautions," says Marcel Huittin in the Echo de Paris, "the Americans have taken a magnificent new edition of their victory in the St. Mihiel."